

SHRIEK SPECIAL NO.1



SHRIEK SPECIAL PRESENTS...

THE BRIDGE

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, DARKNESS AND LIGHT, GOOD AND EVIL, AND THEIR AGENTS, THE DAIVER-LOGUM AND THE MAGI, HAVE WAGED A WAR. EACH PERFECTLY EQUAL, UNABLE TO GAIN A TOTAL VICTORY OVER THE OTHER. THE PRIZE HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE MACROCOSM, THE GREAT EVERYTHING.

THE DAIVER-LOGUM HAD CLAWED HIS WAY BACK TO THE PHYSICAL, SLIPPING BETWEEN THE SHADOWS HE BUILT THIS BODY PIECE BY PIECE. HE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TROUBLE FINDING PARTS. THERE WERE PLENTY OF FOOLS IN THIS WORLD WILLING TO FOLLOW BLINDLY ANYTHING THEY COULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

IT HAD BEEN CENTURIES SINCE THE DAIVER-LOGUM CHALLENGED THE LIGHT ON ANY GRAND SCALE. THIS TIME IT WAS PREPARED. THIS TIME HE KNEW THE MAGI'S WEAKNESS. HE KNEW WHOM IT LOVED, AND WHERE THEY WERE.

THIS TIME THERE WOULD BE NO BRIDGE.



WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY JIM WHITING EDITED BY TOM SKULAN

SPECIAL THANKS GO OUT TO TOM SKULAN, CLIVE BARKER, STEVE NILES,
AND MIKE BROWN.

DEDICATED TO PILJO AND KATRINNA FOR BEARING WITH ME.

CHAPTER 1: THE TEAPOT

THREE DAYS AGO IT
DESTROYED THE PATH
OF SOULS

NO HEAVEN,...

HERE IS MY
HANDLE,...

...NO
HELL!

THE NEWLY DEAD'S
SPIRITS WANDERED...

...HERE IS MY...

...CAUSING CONFUSION.
FEAR.

...SPOUT.

SWEET
SMELLING
FEAR.

"WHEN THE WATERS
BOILING...

NO BETTER PLACE TO RELISH
THE TASTE THAN IN THE
CENTER OF MILLIONS
RADIATING SO MUCH PANIC.

...HERE ME SHOUT...

HERE IN THIS CITY, HE WOULD
RAISE AN ARMY OF THE
UN-DEAD.

...TIP ME OVER AND POUR
ME OUT.

HERE, HE WOULD
FIND THE MAGI.

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WELCOME DEAREST NIETH.

PLEASE, CALL ME 'DAV' ALL MY FRIENDS DO.



I'VE GOT LOTS OF FUN AND GAMES FOR US TO PLAY...

...IN THE DARK.



TALK SENSE DEMON.

"THE MACROCOSM."

"THE ETERNAL NIGHT.?"



"IT'S YOURS."

I NEED BLOOD.



"FOR YOU MY DEAR, THE MOON."

"WE'LL NEED A FEW OF THOSE BLOOD-THIRSTY KIDS OF YOURS."

"TELL THEM I'M THROWING A PARTY..."



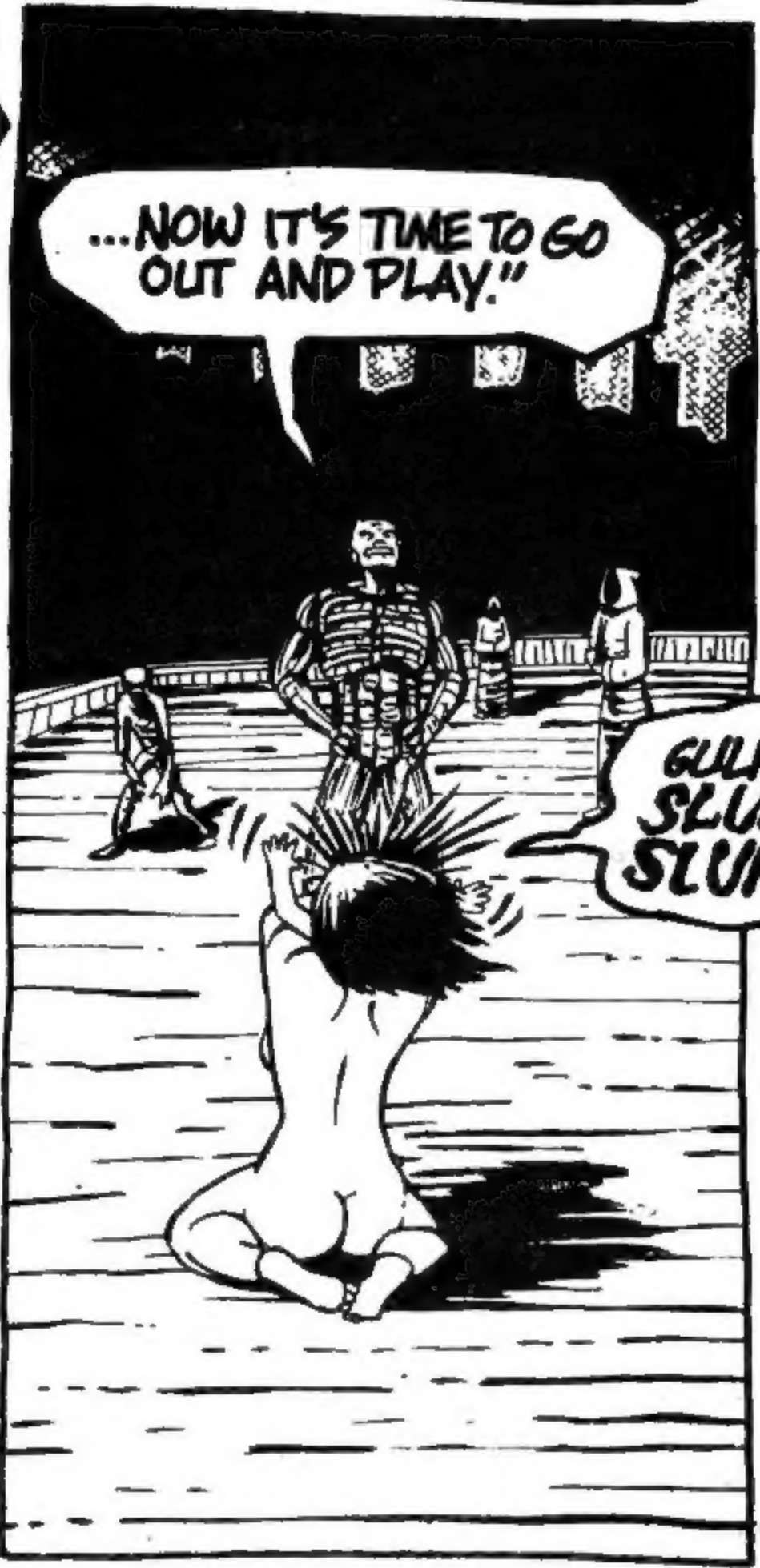
WAAA...

...DRINKS ARE ON ME."



♪ WHEN THE MEAL IS OVER MOM WILL SAY,... ♪

WAA...



...NOW IT'S TIME TO GO OUT AND PLAY."

GULP SLURP SLURP

2: FAMILY and Relatives

ACROSS TOWN FIRES
HAVE BEGUN TO
BREAK OUT.



DAVID TORRES DRIFTS
IN AND OUT OF SLEEP.



DREAMING.

HE HADN'T HAD THE
DREAMS SINCE HE
WAS A KID.



HE'D FORGOTTEN HOW
GOOD THEY FELT.

HE COULD STAY AND DREAM
FOREVER,...

...BUT WASN'T HE
SUPPOSED TO BE
SOMEWHERE?



IT DIDN'T MATTER.
HE WANTED TO DREAM.

"TONIGHT WITH TED BERKELEY,
NOTED SCIENTIST PAUL
WIENSTIEN AND
CLERGYMAN FATHER
JOHN O'CASEY."

"FATHER, GHOSTS,
DEMONS, VISIONS.
IS THIS JUDGEMENT
DAY? IS GOD CASHING
IN OUR CHIPS?"

"WELL TODD THE
SKY IS GETTING
DARKER BY THE
DAY, AT SOME
POINT GOD WILL..."

**SPECIAL
REPORT:
THE END?
WHY NOW?**

**SPECIAL
REPORT:
THE END?
WHY NOW?**



"FATHER, WHAT ABOUT
POLLUTION, GOVERNMENT
DE-REGULATION. HOW
ABOUT MEDIA INSPIRED
MASS HYSTERIA!"

"FACE IT WIENSTIEN, THE
BIG GUY HAS HAD OF
ENOUGH OF THIS
CESSPOOL, AND
GARBAGE LIKE YOU!!!"

REPENT GARBAGE,
OR BURN IN
HELL!!



DAVID WATCHED BUT NONE OF THIS
MEANT ANYTHING.

EVENTUALLY HE DRIFTED OFF.



SHE WAS HERE.

THE YOUNG VAMPIRE COULD SMELL HER. THERE WAS POWER HERE TOO.

SHE CALLED, HE CAME.



THE
NEW
IS
HERE

FRANK

THE OLD ONES TALKED OF THE QUEEN/MOTHER. HOW SHE WOULD RETURN TO LEAD THEM.

HIS KIND WOULD TAKE THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACE. NO MORE HIDING FROM THE DAYLIGHT.

TODAY HE WOULD MEET HIS MAKER.



COME.

MOTHER?

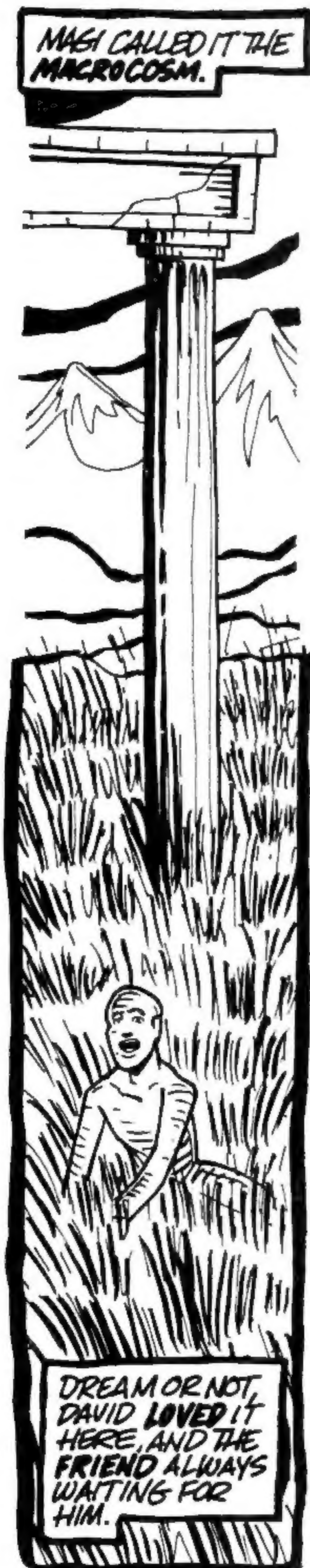
YES, I HAVE COME BACK TO MY CHILDREN. AN INFIDELITY CREATED US I SHALL RIGHT THIS WRONG, GIVE YOU THIS WORLD.

YOU WILL LEAD BESIDE ME.

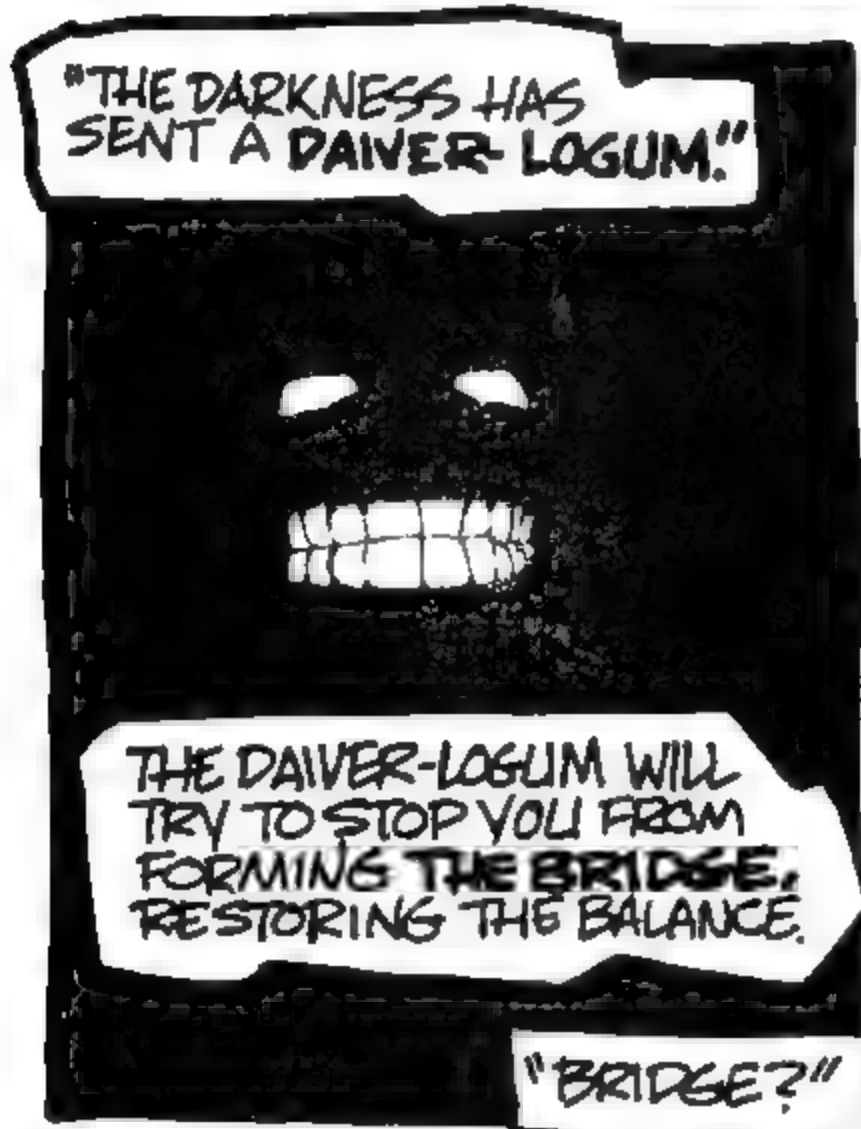




3: The DREAM







TERRY ROSEMONT WAS NOT THE KIND OF GIRL WHO USUALLY WORRIED, BUT THESE WERE NOT THE BEST OF DAYS.

INFACT THE WHOLE WORLD WAS GOING TO SHIT.

WHERE THE HELL WAS DAVID SHE WONDERED. HE PROMISED TO PACK A FEW THINGS, AND THEY COULD GET OUT OF THE CITY BEFORE THINGS GET REALLY BAD.

HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN BACK BY NOW.

TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE HIS PHONE HASN'T WORKED IN TWO DAYS.



SHE THOUGHT ABOUT THIER MARRIAGE PLANS,...

... BUT THAT WAS BEFORE THE WORLD TURNED INSANE.

A black and white illustration showing a close-up of the woman's face. She has a thoughtful or perhaps sad expression, with her eyes looking down.

THEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT.

OH, NO.

A black and white illustration of the woman's face in a dark room. Her eyes are wide open, and her mouth is slightly agape in a look of shock or fear.

SHE UNPACKED THE CANDLES.

AS MUCH AS SHE HATED TO ADMIT IT, SHE WAS SCARED.

A black and white illustration of the woman lighting a candle. Bright light emanates from the flame. The scene is dark, emphasizing the single source of light.

KNOCK KNOCK

WHO IS IT?

RED CROSS, MAM.

WE WERE CHECKING THE BUILDING WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT, YOU OK. IN THERE?

THANK GOD!

A large black and white illustration of a woman standing behind a closed door. She is looking through the peephole. Outside the door, there are some boxes and a small table.

HELLO?

A black and white illustration of the woman looking out from a doorway. She is holding a candle, and her expression is one of uncertainty or fear.



4: DARKNESS BE THY NAME



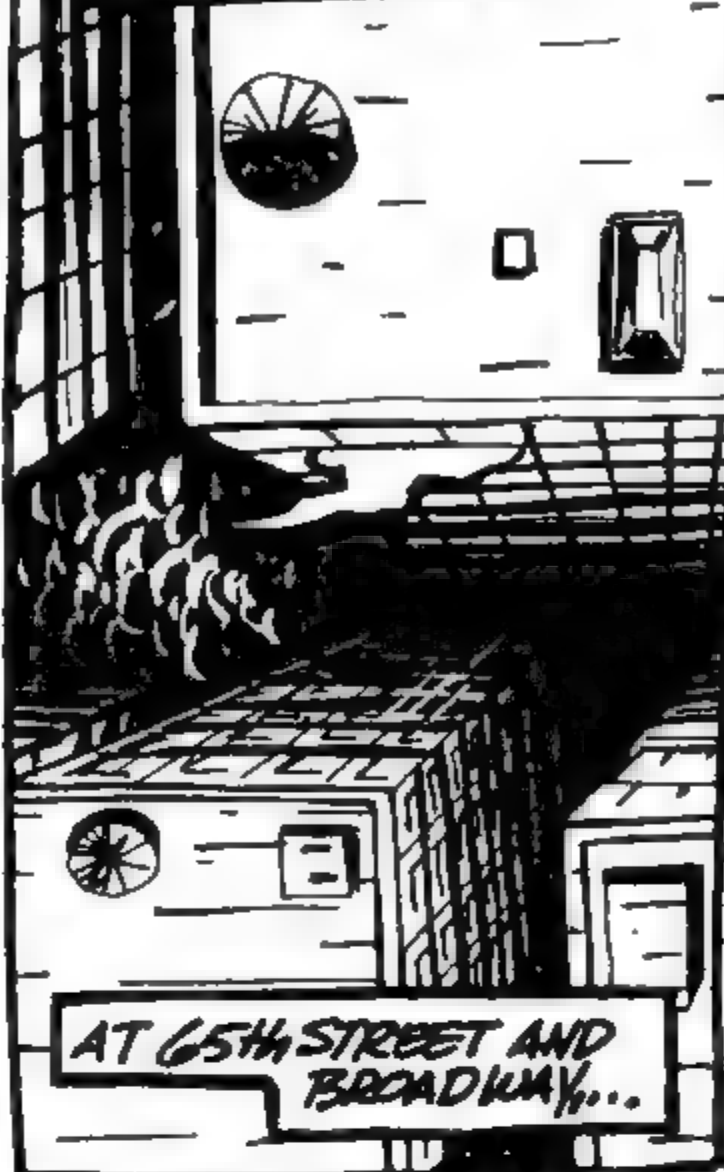
AFTER THE LIGHTS WENT
OUT MANY THEM BROKE OUT
IN THE CITY.

THE ELECTRICITY
WAS DEAD.



DOWNTOWN WAS
IN FLAMES.

LIT TOWN, RIOTS.



AT 65th STREET AND
BROADWAY...

... A MOB BEATS A PRIEST
TO DEATH.



HIS GOD HAD
DESERTED
THEM.

NEARBY, DAVID TURNS DOWN AN
ALLEY. HE CAN'T AFFORD TO BECOME
INVOLVED UNTIL TERRY IS SAFE.

BY THE TIME HE SAW IT,
IT WAS TOO LATE.



MAGI...

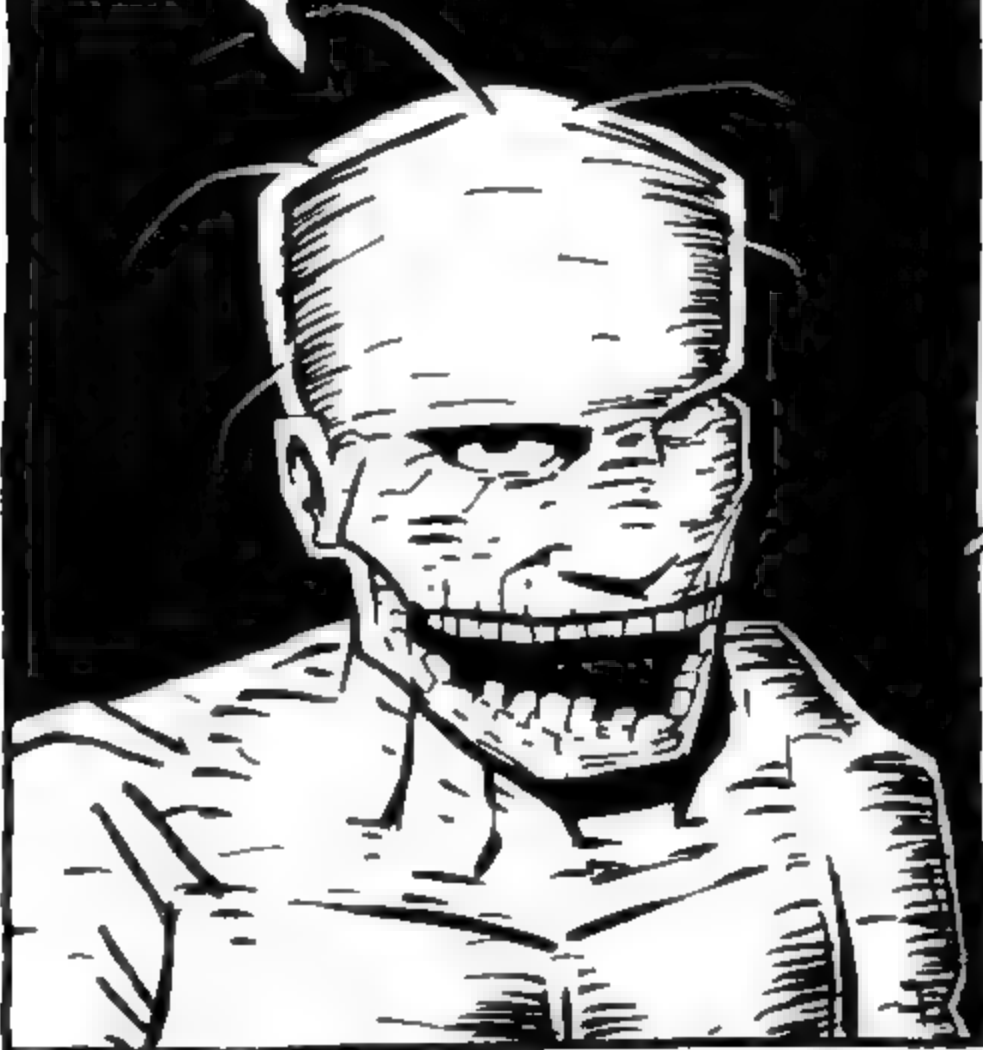


IT WAS ONE OF THE
LOST DEAD,...

... AND IT WAS TALKING
TO HIM!

ERR... AH... YES?

... YOU DIE,
GIRL DIE,
FORM THE...



...BRIDGE...
ARRRRGGH...



THE DEAD THING ENTERED,...



...AND PASSED
THROUGH HIM
LIKE MIST.



THE THING CONTINUED
DOWN THE ALLEY,...



...SENDING THE
MOB SCATTERING.

WHATEVER IT WAS IT
KNEW ALL ABOUT
HIM, AND THE MAGI.



WHATEVER
HAPPENS,

DAVID KNEW, THINGS
WERE NEVER GOING
TO BE THE SAME AGAIN.

THE GHOST PASSING THROUGH
HIM KNOTTED HIS STOMACH,...



...EMPTYING
IT'S CONTENTS.



IN THE MACROCOSM THE DAIVER-LOGUM
DRIVES BACK THE LIGHT.

SOON THE DARKNESS WOULD
BE EVERYWHERE AND EVERYTHING.

♪ HERE WE ALL
GATHER FROM
OUR PLAY, ... ♪



"I HAVE COME FOR YOU
DAIVER-LOGUM."

MY BROTHER, SOONER OR
LATER I KNEW YOU'D
COME.

"YOUR MESSENGER'S LOVED
ONE HAS BEEN TAKEN
OUT OF THE GAME. HE
CANNOT FORM THE BRIDGE."

WE WILL FIGHT YOU TILL
THE VERY END.

BUT THIS TIME, I'VE
SPIKED THE PUNCH.

WE ARE CREATURES OF
THE LIGHT, EVERYTHING
YOU ARE NOT.

5: TO DREAM NO MORE

THE BUILDING TERRY LIVED IN WAS DARK AND QUIET, TOO QUIET.

TOO MANY THINGS HAD HAPPENED IN THE LAST 24 HOURS, TO BELIEVE TERRY WAS SAFE.

THAT WOULD BE TOO EASY.

NO, SOMETHING BIG WAS HAPPENING HERE, AND DAVID WAS ALONG FOR THE RIDE.

'THE BRIDGE' MAGI HAD CALLED IT IN HIS DREAM.



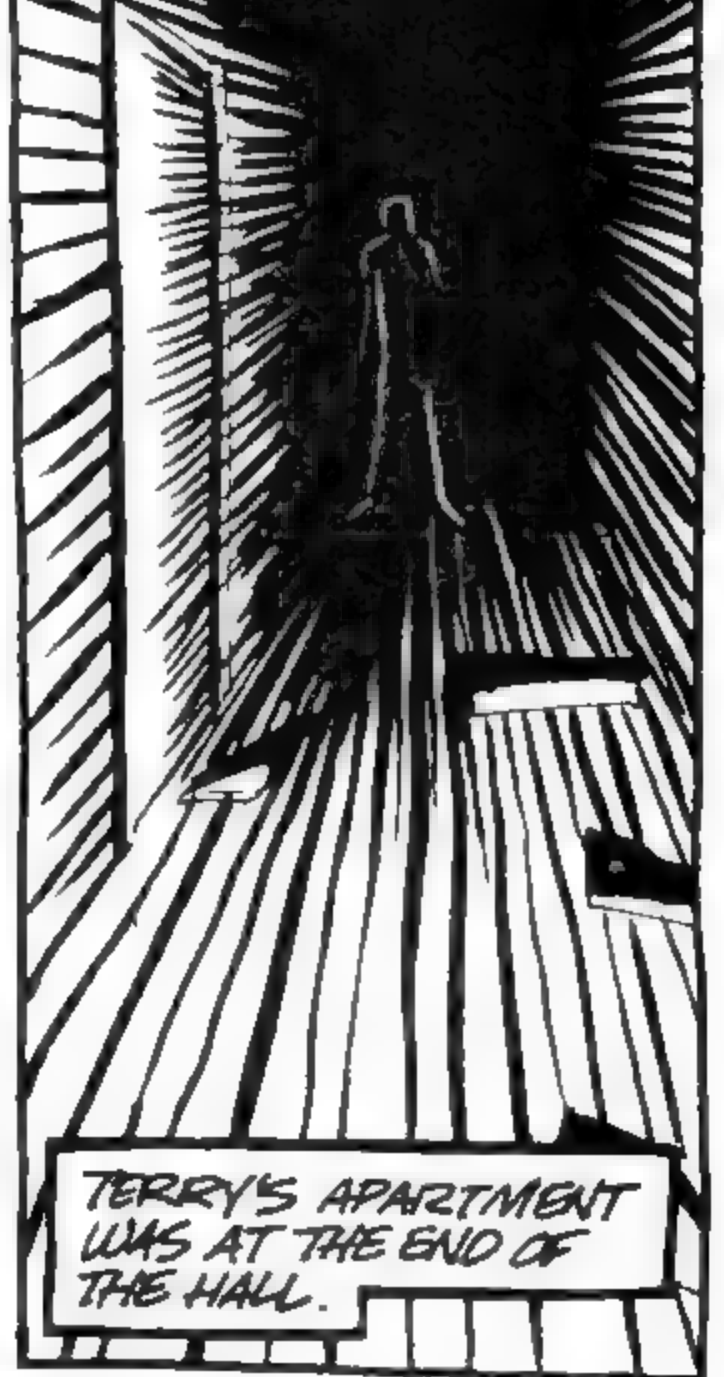
HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A 'MAGI' WHATEVER THE HELL THAT WAS.

HE HADN'T NOTICED IT BEFORE, BUT THE DARKNESS MADE HIS SKIN TINGLE.



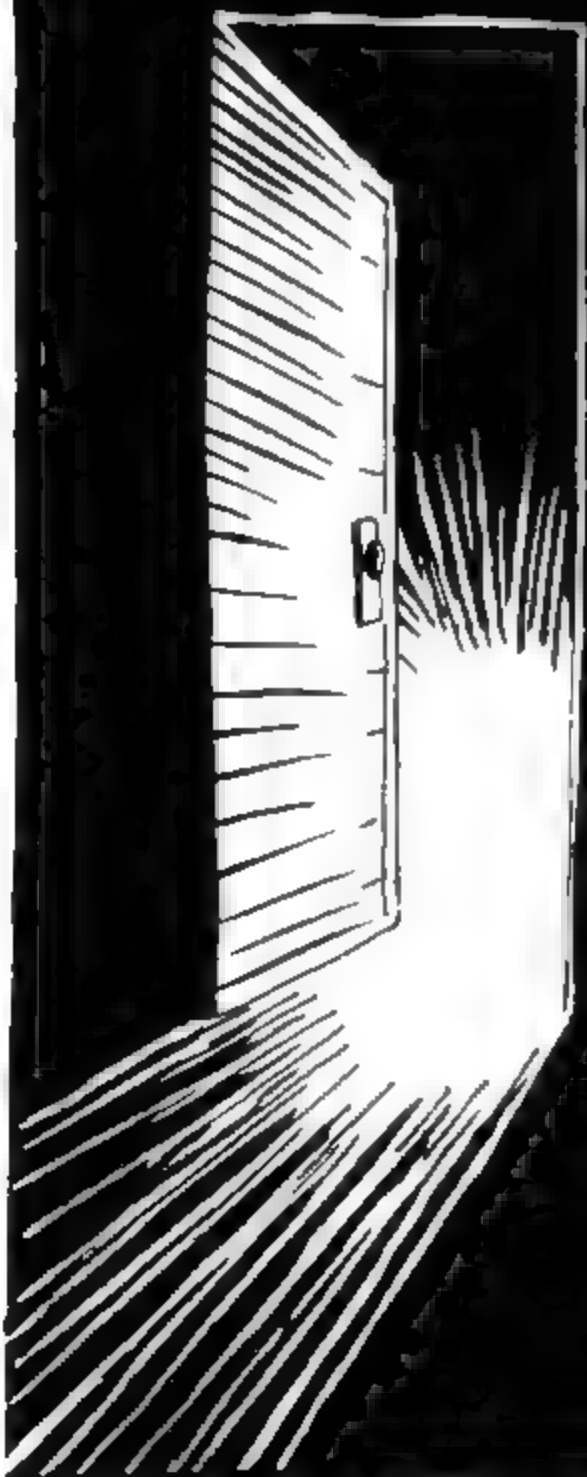
HIS HAIR STOOD UP LIKE A CAT RE-ACTING TO A NATURAL ENEMY.

HE WAS ON THE RIGHT FLOOR.



TERRY'S APARTMENT WAS AT THE END OF THE HALL.

THE DOOR WAS AJAR, A SINGLE LIGHT WITH IN.



NO, IT WOULD BE TOO EASY TO BE O.K.

EXPECTING THE WORST, AND GETTING IT ARE TWO DIFFERANT THINGS ALTOGETHER.



VERY DIFFERENT.

TERRY DIED PAINFULLY,
AND SLOWLY.

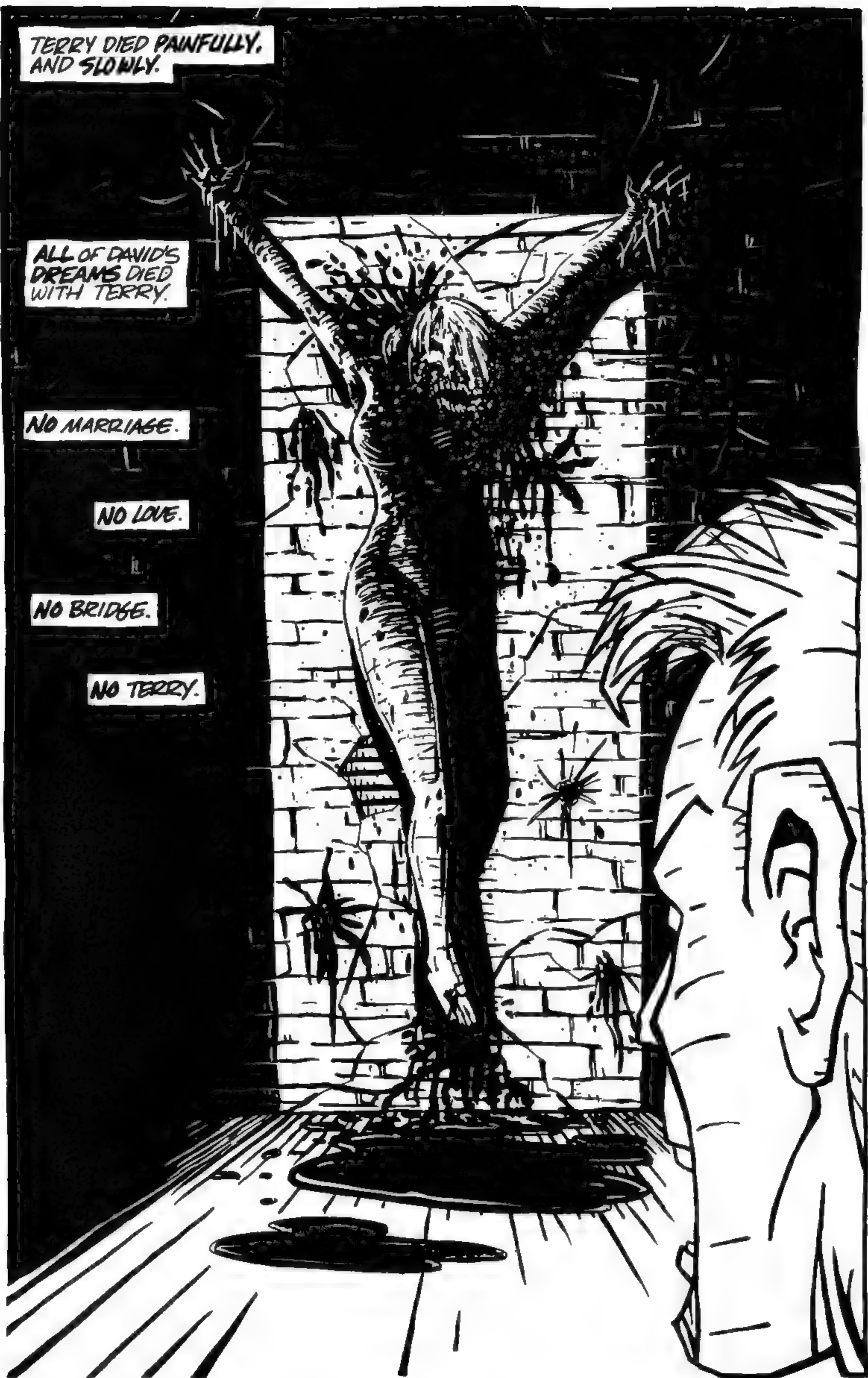
ALL OF DAVID'S
DREAMS DIED
WITH TERRY.

NO MARRIAGE.

NO LOVE.

NO BRIDGE.

NO TERRY.

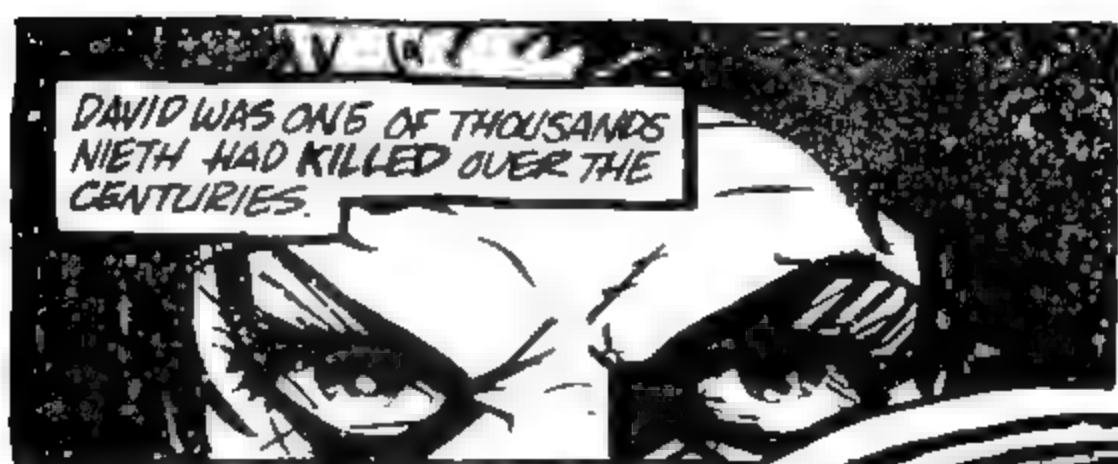






6: DARK RELEASE





DAVID WAS ONE OF THOUSANDS
NIETH HAD KILLED OVER THE
CENTURIES.



DAVID WAS DYING.



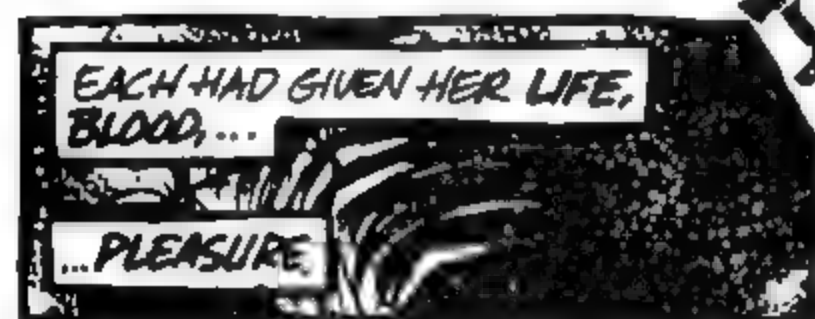
ONE IN
THOUSANDS
SHE HAD
DOMINATED...

...DRAINED,

...ENJOYED.

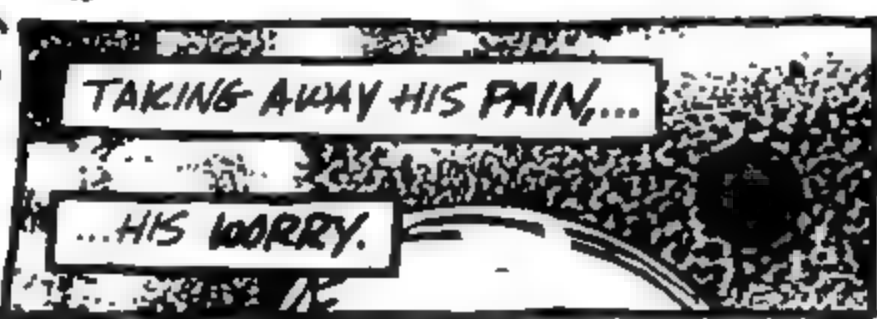


SHE WAS KILLING
HIM.



EACH HAD GIVEN HER LIFE,
BLOOD,...

...PLEASURE



TAKING AWAY HIS PAIN,...

...HIS WORRY.



SHE LOVED
THE PLEASURE...



THE WEIGHT
OF EXISTENCE
WAS LIFTING.



...AND EACH OF
THEM FOR GIVING
IT TO HER.



SHE WOULD GIVE
HIM THIS RELEASE.



AS SHE
DRAINED
DAVID,...



AS HIS LIFE
DRAINED AWAY...



...SHE
REALIZED,...



...HE
REALIZED...



...SHE
LOVED
HIM
ALSO.



...HE LOVED
HER FOR IT.



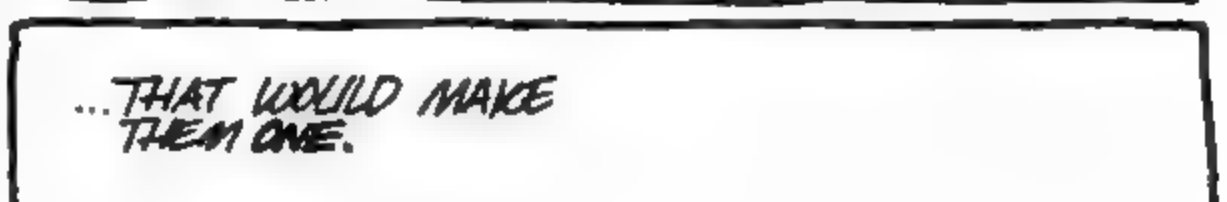
IT WAS
HER LOVE...



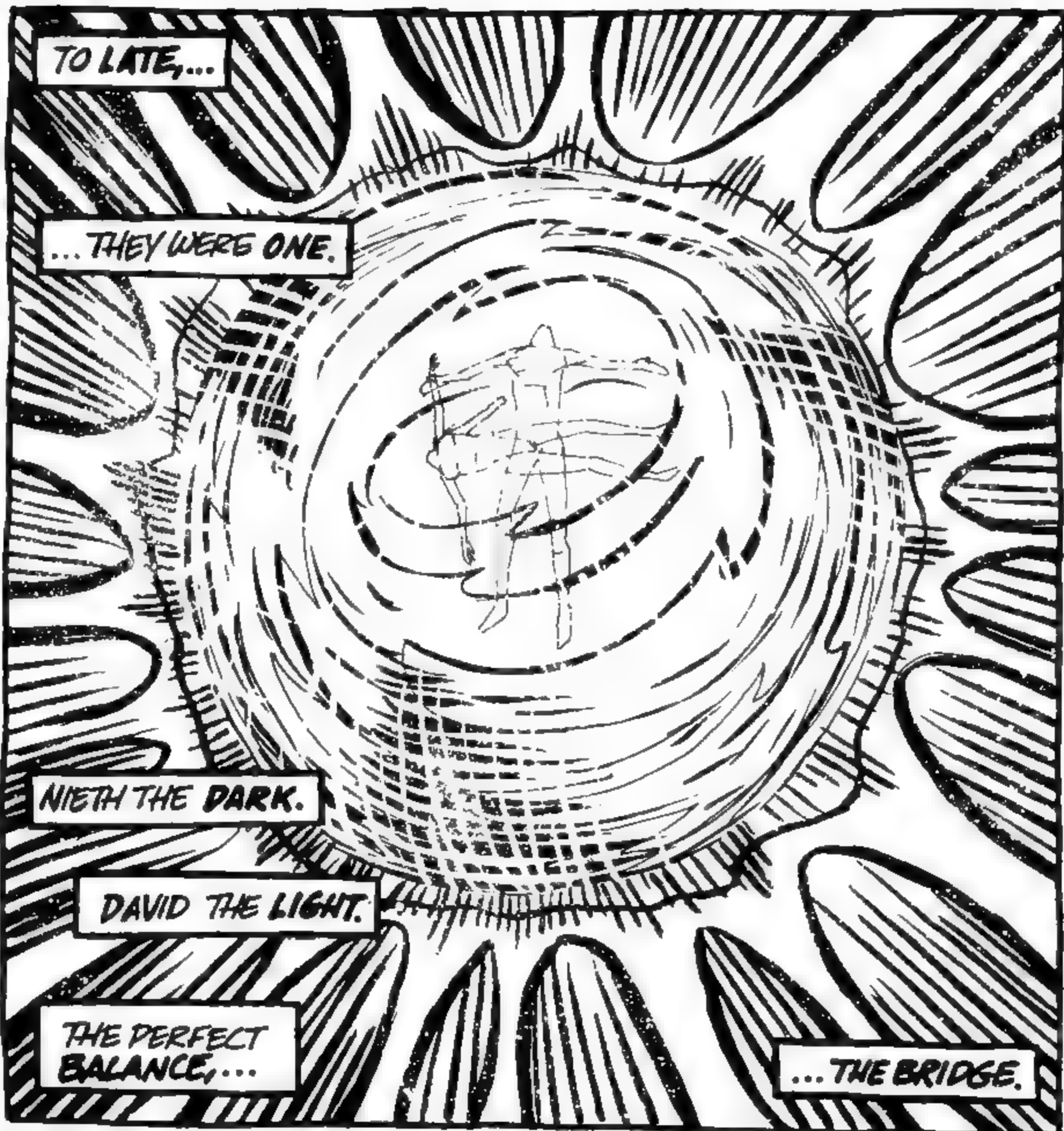
IT WAS
HIS LOVE...



...THAT WOULD MAKE
THEM ONE.



...THAT WOULD MAKE
THEM ONE.



TO LATE,...

...THEY WERE ONE.

NIETH THE DARK.

DAVID THE LIGHT.

THE PERFECT
BALANCE,...

...THE BRIDGE.



THE BRIDGE GREW,...

...IT'S LIGHT
BURNING,...

...CLEANSING.



IT SUCKED THE
DARKNESS OUT
OF THE DAIVER-LOGUM.

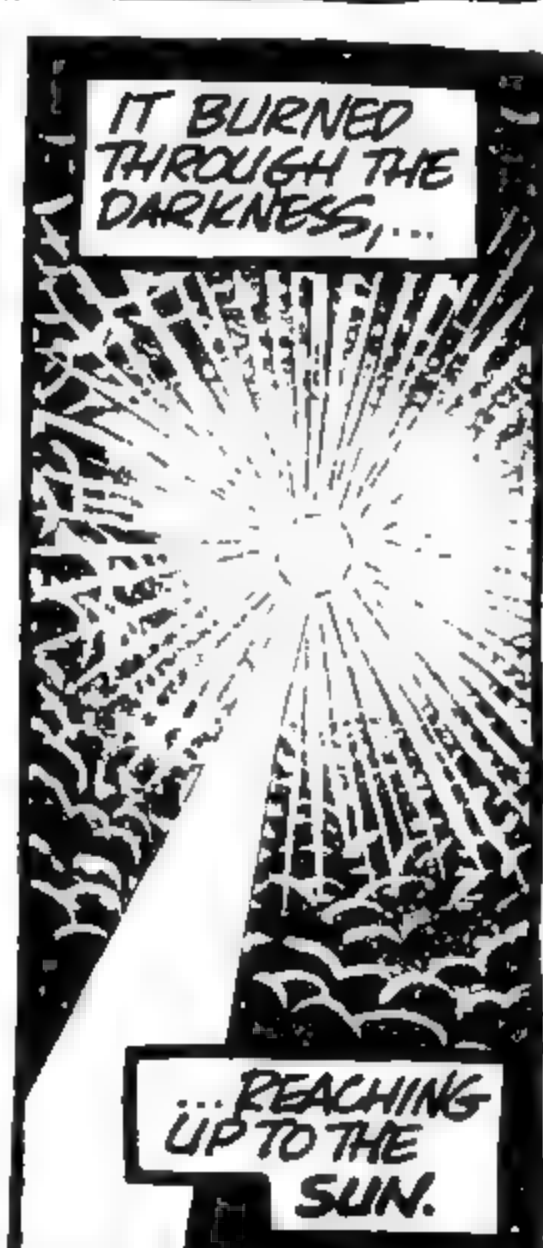


NOTHING
REMAINED,
BUT THE
HUMAN FORM
IT HAD STOLEN.



THE BUILDING
COULD NO LONGER
CONTAIN IT.

BOOM



IT BURNED
THROUGH THE
DARKNESS,...

...REACHING
UP TO THE
SUN.

THE LOST DEAD HEADED
INTO THE LIGHT...



... LIKE MOTHS, TO
THEIR FINAL REWARD.

IN THE MACROCOSM, THE
PATH OF SOULS WAS
BRIDGED.



HEAVEN, AND
HELL REPLENISHED.



ON EARTH THE LIGHT
INTENSIFIED.



IT WASHED AWAY
ALL DARKNESS,
EVERYWHERE,...

... UNTIL FOR A FEW
BRIEF SECONDS THERE
WERE NO SHADOWS,...

...NO DARKNESS.

SLOWLY THE SHADOWS
RETURNED.



DARKNESS WHERE
NECESSARY.



THE BALANCE
RESTORED.



IN THE BURNED RUINS
THAT ONCE HOUSED
THE HOPES AND DREAMS
OF TERRY ROSEMONT AND
DAVID TORRES...



...LAY THE REMAINS
THAT ONCE HOSTED
A GREAT EVIL.

THE ONCE LIVING
FORM OF DARKNESS.

AN EVIL THAT
COULD TOPPLE
WORLDS,...

... BUT NEVER ANYTHING
MORE THAN HUMAN.

THE GREAT DESTROYER.



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NEW FANTACO RELEASES!

APRIL

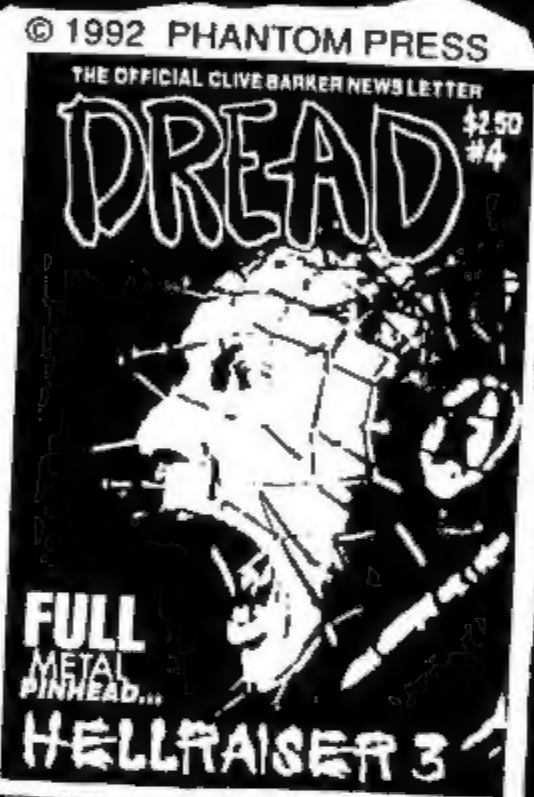


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#1



#2



MAY

© 1992 WENDY SNOW LANG

#1



© 1992 CHAS. BALUN

JUNE

COVER ART © 1992 JOHN BOLTON

#2



'BOOKS THAT BITE BACK'

Fantaco

ENTERPRISES
21 CENTRAL AVENUE
ALBANY, NY 12210



" THE DARKNESS IS
SPREADING LIKE
A CANCER. ONLY
YOU CAN STOP IT."



AN EVIL SCAN (-Thing)